

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-07 EB-08 COME-00 CIAE-00
DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 H-02
/042 W

-----014660 010850Z /21

R 010143Z DEC 77

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO USIA WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3201

UNCLAS TOKYO 18431

USIAC

USIA FOR IEA, IOP/DF; STATE FOR EA

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: SENATOR GRAVEL OF ALASKA DISCUSSES FISHERIES PROBLEMS IN
HOKKAIDO

REF: TOKYO 17875

SUMMARY: ON NOV 25, AT REQUEST OF USIS, SENATOR MIKE GRAVEL OF ALASKA MET WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE HOKKAIDO FISHING INDUSTRIES FOR ROUND TABLE TALK ON "IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FISHERIES CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT ACT (FCMA)." THE SENATOR'S AUDIENCE INCLUDED LEADERS OF JAPANESE FISHING ORGANIZATIONS WHO HAVE FELT THEMSELVES MOST INJURED BY THE FCMA AND HAVE BEEN ITS MOST VOCAL JAPANESE CRITICS. WHILE THE INITIAL "SCREECHING" PERIOD THAT ACCOMPANIED ENACTMENT OF THE LAW HAS COME TO AN END, FEELINGS STILL RUN RATHER HIGH. SENATOR GRAVEL WAS ABLE TO HANDLE QUESTIONS RAISED BY HIS AUDIENCE TO THEIR SATISFACTION. PRESS COVERAGE WAS AMPLE, ACCURATE AND FAVORABLE.

1. SENATOR GRAVEL'S SAPPORO PROGRAM ON THE FISHERIES

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CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT ACT (FCMA) WAS CO-SPONSORED BY LOS TASK FORCE OF HOKKAIDO PREFECTURAL GOVERNMENT AND THE HOKKAIDO FISHERIES COOPERATIVE. IT WAS HELD IN THE HOKKAIDO FISHERIES HALL AND WAS ARRANGED ON SHORT NOTICE BY SAPPORO AC DIRECTOR PHILIP HARLEY WHO REPORTED AS FOLLOWS:

"IN HIS PRESENTATION, SENATOR GRAVEL UNDERSCORED THAT

FAIR-MINDEDNESS IS THE NATIONAL TRAIT OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE BOTH IN DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL MATTERS. HE CALLED FOR THE CREATION OF A NORTHERN PACIFIC FISHERIES SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE SO THAT THE U.S., CANADA, JAPAN, THE SOVIET UNION, THE ROK AND POSSIBLY MEXICO COULD WORK TOGETHER TO PREPARE UNIVERSALLY ACCEPTABLE SCIENTIFIC DATA OF THE SUSTAINABLE STOCKS OF FISH SPECIES. HE NOTED THAT THE FCMA BILL IS SUBSERVIENT TO AN AGREEMENT WHICH MAY BE REACHED BY THE UN CONFERENCE ON LOS AND SUGGESTED THAT JAPAN SHOULD CONTINUE TO PROVIDE ITS TECHNOLOGICAL AND MARKETING CAPACITIES TO MAXIMIZE THE CATCHING AND MARKETING OF FISH ON A JOINT-VENTURE BASIS.

2. "THE SENATOR'S OBVIOUS UNDERSTANDING OF AND SYMPATHY WITH THE PROBLEMS FACED BY THE JAPANESE FISHING INDUSTRY IN ADAPTING TO THE NEW SITUATION ESTABLISHED A RAPPORT BETWEEN HIM AND THE AUDIENCE WHICH PERMITTED HIM TO EFFECTIVELY CONVEY TO THE JAPANESE THE RATIONALE BEHIND U.S. ACTIONS AND POLICIES. HE PLEDGED TO THEM THAT HE WOULD PERSONALLY WORK TO ALLEVIATE ANY INJUSTICES IN THE IMPLEMENTATIONS OF FCMA WHICH THEY COULD DOCUMENT, AND SUGGESTED VARIOUS WAYS IN WHICH THEY COULD MAKE THE NEW SYSTEM WORK FOR THEM, SUCH AS THROUGH JOINT-VENTURES.

3. "THE PROGRAM TURNED OUT TO BE AN ENCOURAGING ONE.
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SENATOR GRAVEL COMMENDED AND LOOKED TOWARD THE CONTINUATION OF JAPANESE IMAGINATION, INGENUITY, AND DILIGENCE, WHICH WILL MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO OVERCOME THE DIFFICULTIES BROUGHT ABOUT BY THE EXTENDED JURISDICTION.

4. "IN ADDITION TO THE FISHERIES PROGRAM, SENATOR GRAVEL MET WITH PRESIDENT KENJI SATO OF THE HOKKAIDO-ALASKA ASSOCIATION ON NOVEMBER 25 AND 26 FOR TALKS REGARDING JAPAN'S SECURITY PROBLEMS, TRADE IMBALANCES, JAPANESE-CHINESE AND JAPANESE-SOVIET RELATIONS, SITUATIONS IN ASEAN COUNTRIES, THE U.S. PROJECT OF CONSTRUCTING A SEA LEVEL CANAL IN PANAMA, AND ALASKA'S PROJECT OF BUILDING A NEW CITY AT THE FOOT OF MR. MCKINLEY WHERE A WINTER OLYMPICS IS LIKELY TO BE HOSTED IN 1988 OR 1992.

5. "THE SENATOR EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION OF THE ROLE OF THE SAPPORO AMERICAN CENTER IN ARRANGING HIS PROGRAM, AND VISITED THE SAC TO MEET THE STAFF. WHILE THERE HE SAW AN EXHIBIT OF NAVAJO BLANKETS. ALL IN ALL, THIS WAS A VERY EFFECTIVE AND USEFUL PROGRAM WHICH WE FEEL WAS BENEFIT TO THE SAC, THE HOKKAIDO FISHERIES ORGANI-

ZATIONS, AND TO THE SENATOR."

6. THE POST APPRECIATES THE ASSISTANCE OF THE AGENCY
IN MAKING THIS PROGRAM POSSIBLE.

7. POST WILL SEND TO AGENCY FOR FORWARDING TO SENATOR'S
OFFICE TRANSLATIONS OF PRESS COVERAGE PLUS BOOKS AND OTHER
MATERIALS LEFT WITH INTERPRETER.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FISHERIES, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 01-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Image Path:
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Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 TOKYO 17875
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 109375
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SENATOR GRAVEL OF ALASKA DISCUSSES FISHERIES PROBLEMS IN HOKKAIDO
TAGS: EFIS, JA, US
To: USIA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/78e6cefb-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009